POOR PROFITABILITY OF PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

2462. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the continuing time and cost overruns is implementation of public sector projects are a major cause of poor profitability of these projects;

(b) whether such overruns also lead to premature technology absolescence;

(c) whether these delays are caused by inadequate attention to all aspects of project planning and implementation;

(d) If so, what steps does that Government intend to take to rectify the situation and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) No, sir. The time and cost overrun is one of the major reasons for poor profitability of only some public sector projects.

(b) No, sir. However, only in hightech areas where inordinate delay may cause technological obsolescence.

(c) The delay is generally caused by the delay in land acquisition, delay in supplies, poor project management and failure of contractors.

(d) The Government is continuously studying the scope for improvements in the existing systems and procedures. The procedural aspects of land acquisition, contract management and application of latest project management tools for improved formulation, appraisal, planning and implementation are under consideration to avoid delays and cost increase in projects.

ALLOCATION FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN MADHYA PRADESH

2463. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for irrigation projects in each district of Madhya Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) what is the allocation of funds for tribal and backward areas for the projects which are likely to be completed in the State during the Plan period and break-up for each year, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the allocation of funds, planning, execution and maintenance etc. are the resposibility of the concerned State Governments. The Planning Commission, to not recommend district-wise funds for irrigation projects. For the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission have approved an outlay of Rs. 1791.29 crores for Major and Medium Irrigation schemes and Rs. 728.37 crores for Minor Irrigation Schemes. As per the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, the flow of funds from the irrigation projects to the Tribal sub-Plan during 8th Plan is estimated to be Rs. 907.59 crores.

NDCS PANEL ON POWER

2364. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Development Council (NDC) has set up a panel on power to check out on action plan for the structural reform programme in the power sector and the related areas;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that emphasis has been shifted from generation to conservation if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the annual conservation target fixed and the likely saving on capacity addition programme; and

(e) what are the ways and means to conserve power in crucial areas such as industrial units, commercial establishments, agriculture and domestic sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) In accordance with the decision taken by the National Development Council (NDC) at its meeting held on 5-4-1993, a Committee has been set up to look into the problems of the power sector. This Committee is required to, inter-alia, examine measures to make State Electricity Boards economically viable by recasting tariffs, improving efficiency and considering delinking of distribution from generation. The composition and terms of reference of the Committee are as follows :

Composition

1. Chief Minister of Mahrashtra —Chairman
2. Chief Minister/Governor of Uttar Pradesh —Member
3. Chief Minister of Punjab —Member
4. Chief Minister of Karnataka —Member
5. Chief Minister of West Bengal —Member
6. Chief Minister of Assam —Member
7. Union Minister of Finance —Member
8. Union Minister of Power —Member
9. Dr. S.Z. Qasim, Member Planning Commission —Member-Secretary

Terms of reference:

(i) to review the factors which have contributed to technical and managerial inefficiencies of the power utilities in the States leading to increased costs and inefficiencies in the supply of electricity to different categories of consumers and recommend measures to minimise the unit cost of electricity supply to consumers;

(ii) to review the electricity tariff structure in the State and recommend a set of national norms for implementation to make the state power utilies economically viable and enable them to generate adequate internal resources for financing their future capital expansion programmes for meeting the increasing demand for electricity in different parts of the country;

(iii) to review the institutional and financial structure of the State power utilities and recommend necessary changes including, inter-alia, the need to delink distribution from generation and the need to involve the consumers in the management of electricity distribution through rural cooperatives etc., in order to ensure that the State power utilities function on commercial lines with adequate customer orientation; and

(iv) to suggest measures necessary for suitably orienting the State power utilities towards promoting investments from the private sector within the framework of the recently announced changes in the economic and industrial policy for covering the anticipated gap in the availability of financial resources for power development in the coming years.

The work of the Committee is presently in progress.

(d) A National Energy Efficiency Programme (NEEP) has been taken up in the Eighth Plan period under which a

target for saving of 5000 MW of installed capacity has been envisaged for electricity sector and 6 million tonnes of petroleum products in the terminal year of the Eighth Plan (1996-97).

(e) The energy conservation measures proposed to be taken up in the Eighth Plan are given in the Eighth Plan Document Vol. II Chapter on Energy (page 202 to 206).

विभिन्न राज्यों में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले वर्ग के प्रतिशत में विभिन्नता

2465. डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

श्री वीरेन जे. शाह :

क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले वर्ग का प्रतिशत भिन्न-भिन्न है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक राज्य में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले वर्ग का प्रतिशत उस राज्य की कुल जनसंख्या की तुलना में कितना-कितना है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार द्वारा आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि में गरीबी के राष्ट्रीय स्तर से अधिक गरीबी वाले राज्यों में गरीबी-उन्मूलन कार्यक्रमों पर अधिक ध्यान दिया गया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में विस्तृत ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, उपर्युक्त भाग (ग) में उल्लिखित कार्यक्रमों को प्राथमिकता न दिये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांग) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां । वर्ष 1987-88 नवीनतम वर्ष जिसके लिए पूर्व में जारी किए गए गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रह रहे गरीबों का राज्यवार प्रतिशत उपलब्ध है, विवरण-1 में दिया गया है (नीचे देखिये)

1. योजना आयोग द्वारा गठित एक विशेषज्ञ दल ने गरीबों के आंकलन के लिए एक वैकल्पिक कार्यविधि की सिफारिश की है । विशेषज्ञ दल द्वारा गरीबों का राज्यवार और अखिल भारतीय अनुमान विवरण-2 में दिया गया है नीचे देखिये)

(ग) और (घ) जहां तक ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में गरीबी उन्मूलन के दो मुख्य कार्यक्रमों नामतः एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम (आई आर डी पी) और जवाहर रोजगार योजना (जे आर वाई) का संबंध है, केन्द्रीय सहायता का आबंटन देश में कुल ग्रामीण गरीबों की तुलना में विभिन्न राज्यों में ग्रामीण गरीबों के समानुपात के आधार पर किया जाता है । इसके अलावा, जवाहर रोजगार योजना के अंतर्गत, ऐसे 120 जिलों को पहचान की गई है जहां पर गरीबी और बेरोजगारी की समस्याएं बहुत विकट हैं और जहां सक्रिय कदम उठाए जाने चाहिएं,

सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों, मरूक्षेत्रों, जनजातीय क्षेत्रों और पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में स्थित 257 जिलों के 1752 पिछड़े ब्लाकों, जहां वर्तमान में सुधरी हुई सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली प्रचालन में हैं, में 2-10-93 में रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम (ई ए एस) नामक एक नई स्कीम शुरू की गई है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।